



Passion on the Court

By Jessica Thompson | Jessica@mycityjournals.com

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Aaron Canepari, Taylorsville High's basketball team's point guard, made two free throws with 0.5 seconds left in the game to help Taylorsville earn the win against West Jordan on Wednesday, Jan 20. –Garrett Wilson



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# Library Encourages Early Literacy

By Tori La Rue | [tori@mycityjournals.com](mailto:tori@mycityjournals.com)

If it's a Tuesday morning, you'll likely find Betty Moore and her two-year-old grandson Sebastian at the Taylorsville branch of the Salt Lake County Library.

Moore and Sebastian have been attending Taylorsville Library's Baby, Toddler and Me program weekly since January 2015.

The program, which has been going on longer than four years, seeks to give babies and toddlers a head start at literacy and an introduction to libraries, according to Elizabeth Weaver, youth services librarian.

"It gets them thinking about words," Weaver said about the program. "A three year-old's vocabulary can influence his third grade reading level, which can lead to his high school graduation. It's all really connected, and that's why early literacy is so important."

The half-hour class is divided into two segments. During the first 15 minutes, a librarian leads the babies, toddlers and parents, or other adult chaperones, in songs, imagination games and story time. Then, the librarian breaks out the toys, including blocks, tents and foam letters, and the children have free play.

Sebastian's favorite parts of class are playing with his favorite toy – the tractor – and story time, Moore said. He's come to love books since he started attending the program.

There's ample opportunity for little ones to learn how to interact with each other because usually around 30 people come to the class. The largest turnouts have had over 50 participants, including adults and children.

"It's a really good environment for young moms to get their baby socialized and ready for preschool," Amanda Robison, program participant, said. "It's also the best thing there is for my daughter to burn off her energy before nap time."

Because she believes that children without siblings have a disadvantage in learning how to play with other kids, Robison especially recommended that parents with only one child bring their kids to Baby, Toddler and Me.



Amelia Robison, nearly 2-years-old, digs through foam letters at Taylorsville Library's Baby, Toddler and Me program on Jan. 26. –Tori La Rue

Robison and her only child, Amelia, have attended the program for three weeks, and they are already fans. Amelia, nearly 2 years old, scowled during the first few minutes of her first class but warmed up as the group began to sing songs together.

Robison and Amelia practice singing the Baby, Toddler and Me songs at home, which makes Amelia more excited and comfortable in the program. The "Run Song" is Amelia's favorite, and she's all smiles when they sing it, according to her mom.

The songs and motor activities are important aspects of the class because the babies and toddlers have such short attention spans, Weaver said. Weaver incorporates finger movements called finger plays into her stories, songs and chants to combine motor skills with literary learning into one activity.

The point of the program is to give toddlers new experiences because as they experience new things, they can learn new vocabulary.

"Really, just think about what would happen if we just read to all those babies for an hour," Weaver said. "They want to move all around and explore, which is why Baby, Toddler and Me works like it does."

Once children reach the age of three they are allowed to participate in the sister program, Preschool Story Time, which has a slightly bigger focus on reading than Baby, Toddler and Me does. In Preschool Story Time children may participate in the activities with or without the help of their parents.

"One of the reasons to get kids involved in library activities at an early age is that it helps them learn that libraries aren't scary, and that librarians aren't scary either," Weaver said. "Then they know that the library is here for them as a resource."

Sebastian, who used to hide his head away from Weaver, now finds her "top-notch," according to his grandma. He makes it a point to say goodbye to her before he leaves the library, Moore said.

Baby, Toddler and Me runs from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday at the Taylorsville library. The winter session of Baby, Toddler and Me concluded Feb. 23. Following a two week break, the program will pick back up for spring session beginning on March 15. No registration is necessary. ✦

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## Unlikely Friends Consider Themselves Siblings

By **Tori La Rue** | [tori@mycityjournals.com](mailto:tori@mycityjournals.com)

Growing up the only child with a single dad, Destiny Smith said she always wanted a sibling, but that dream didn't become a reality until her senior year of high school.

"I had cousins, and I was close with them, but I saw how they were together, and I longed for that," Smith said.

Smith, 18, said she was sitting in class at Taylorsville High School last year when she learned how she might be able to get a sibling-type connection through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Utah, an organization whose purpose is to facilitate one-to-one relationships for children.

Shortly thereafter, Smith was meeting with a mentoring specialist with the organization who matched her with a fourth grade student at Vista Elementary.

Smith said she admits being worried about meeting her "little brother" Eric Lindsey, 10, for the first time at his school, but said it worked out because he was just as worried as her. Eric, who's autistic, didn't say a word to her during the first meeting, she said.

"I was so uncomfortable, but I kept having to think, 'I'm the adult here,'" Smith said. "We spent a very awkward hour together that day, but even without talking we had this weird connection."

It wasn't an easy process, but slowly



*Destiny Smith puts her arm around Eric Lindsey, her little brother through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Utah. Smith and Eric are especially close for a pair in the program, according to match specialist Ruth Galvez. Smith created learning routines that help him overcome his unique learning challenges.*

--Abram Sherrod

they came to deeply care about each other. Smith said most of the time she is content "staying in a cave a day," and Eric is the same way, but she knew if they could get past their shyness, they could have a powerful relationship.

Each Monday after her school got out, Smith would travel to Vista Elementary to spend the last hour of Eric's school with him. She began to figure out his likes and dislikes and "forced a connection" out of him, she said.

With his speech impediment and learning disability, many people have a hard time understanding Eric, but Smith continued to talk with him until she could understand him, according to Ruth Galvez, mentoring specialist.

"I'm really impressed with her for taking the extra time to work with him even with his speech impediment," Galvez said. "It's hard for most people to figure out what he is staying, but she understands him."

Eric's teacher originally warned Smith that math was Eric's worst subject, telling her it would be above his head, Galvez said. One year later, it is his strongest subject because Smith helped him to believe that he could learn the material.

Smith said she tries to help Eric avoid being too hard on himself. Sometimes he'll try to write at the same speed as the other kids in his class, but he'll end up accidentally writing the same letter over and over again.

"He gets frustrated and that's his biggest struggle," Smith said.

After Smith became familiar with Eric's struggles and strengths,

she came up with a system that aids his learning style, Galvez said. She does a series of routine exercises with him using a two-subject notebook. One half of the notebook is used for his favorite subject — math, the other for his least favorite subject — English.

They've bonded so well that Galvez wants to make a short video clip about them for Big Brothers Big Sisters, and she nominated Smith for the school-based Big Sister of the Year award.

"She's really just gone above and beyond by creating this for him. I'm impressed with her for taking the extra time to do that," Galvez said. "They bond. He's so happy to see her, and she's overjoyed to see him. It's really a two-way street."

Smith said she starts to miss Eric when she doesn't get to see him. One time she didn't see him for two weeks because of conflicting schedules, and it brought her to tears.

Each participant in the program signs a year contract, Galvez said. Months after Smith's contract was up, she continues to spend an hour with Eric each Monday.

"I think a lot of mentors stop going after a year because it gets to be the same thing every Monday and people get tired of it, but I go because I am still learning new things from Eric," Smith said.

Smith graduated high school and spends most of her time working at a local coffee shop to save up for college.

She plans to move to Provo to attend college next year, but while she's excited for the new adventure, she said it's hard to think about it because she won't get to see Eric.

"I try not to think too much about it," she said. "I just think about how right now he makes me laugh and copies my every move." ✦

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# Students Taking Foreign Language at Taylorsville High

By Elizabeth Suggs | [elizabeth.s@mycityjournals.com](mailto:elizabeth.s@mycityjournals.com)

At Taylorsville High School, foreign language isn't required for graduation, but it's highly encouraged.

Ryan Wells, teacher of Spanish AP and Spanish levels two to three, thinks that more requirements should be made for foreign language and graduation. Currently, the requirement is on universities and other out of high school courses, but not for the diploma.

"I think, honestly, more graduate requirements should be required," Wells said.

According to Wells because the success already in the foreign language department at Taylorsville High and the technology granted, more requirements make sense.

"We have a fantastic program with phenomenal teachers," Wells said. "In AP, especially, it's awesome because we have half native speakers or heritage speakers, and it gives advantage to non-native speakers because those students have to speak to each other when we do activities."

Heritage speakers, unlike native speakers, might not necessarily know the language as usually heritage speakers learn the language as a child, but loses it in adulthood. Because they have already learned the language it can make relearning the language easier, according to Wells.

The foreign language department is

known to use the most technology at the high school. Most of the five foreign language teachers have Chromebooks for students, which gives both students and teachers immediate foreign language access, such as authentic audio sources, research and literature.

the department, but Wells' status has changed. From teaching Spanish one and two, he now teaches AP Spanish and Spanish two and three. With his love of travel and aspirations to visit Latin America, he enjoys teaching at a more difficult level. It gives him an opportunity, es-



Ryan Wells, Spanish teacher at Taylorsville High, explains to students about their first assignment of the day. —Elizabeth Suggs

Other technology access, which all five foreign language teachers take advantage of, are the headsets hung from the ceiling called Class Language Lab. According to Wells, Taylorsville High is one of the only schools in Utah to have that type of technology. The headsets are wired nine feet above where the students sit and boxed. Wells, like the other foreign language teachers, has a program to control them both to come down to the individual students, but also to fix random partners. The headsets also give opportunity for teachers to listen in on conversations, as well as record them for later use by students and teacher.

The foreign language department wasn't always so "phenomenal." Within four years, Wells has seen a major shift in how foreign languages are both taught and used. This is because there's "new blood," according to Wells.

"There was a collective process of rejuvenation," Wells said. "Fresh faces really help to motivate everyone which makes for an awesome department."

Not only have fresh faces been added to

pecially in AP Spanish to speak Spanish the majority of the class time.

"I had a study abroad with Spanish. I quickly started traveling through Latin America and meeting people," he said.

The people, according to Wells, inspired him to focus more on one of the two majors he completed in college — the Spanish language.

Students can learn to love language sooner by engaging in language learning activities at a younger age. Instead of starting language learning in ninth grade, students should be learning languages in seventh grade.

It's because, according to Wells, if seventh graders start language learning that year, by the time they reach high school they've already had four years of language learning experience.

"That's a huge benefit for them," he said. "No longer would it be that stigma about learning a language in high school but not actually learning it." ✦

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COUNCIL CORNER

The City Council has had many opportunities to become involved with the 2016 legislative session. We belong to groups who give us daily and weekly updates. We also rely on the wisdom and expertise of our senators, representatives and lobbyist to advocate for Taylorsville.

The Utah League of Cities and Towns is an organization to which we belong which represents municipal government interests with a strong, unified voice at the state and federal levels. They provide training to the council, weekly meetings at the Capitol, and daily updates on important legislation. They also give our Youth Council the opportunity to spend a day at the legislature to learn more about local and state government.

ChamberWest is an excellent resource for legislative updates focusing on the west side of the valley. We attend weekly Legislative Round-up meetings where we hear from our legislators



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regarding bills they sponsor and support. This is very educational and gives us a chance to ask questions and gain a greater understanding of the legislative process.

Our Taylorsville senators, representatives and lobbyist spend many hours fighting for the rights and needs of our city and our residents. A big thank you to Senator Karen Mayne, Senator Wayne Harper, Representative Johnny Anderson, Representative Jim Dunnigan and Lobbyist Charles Evans. We are appreciative of these many people and resources we have available to us to be champions for Taylorsville.

Taylorsville City Meeting Schedule

MEETING SCHEDULE	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
City Council Meeting	March 2nd, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
Planning Commission	March 8th, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
City Council Work Session	March 9th, 2016	6:00 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
City Council Meeting	March 16th, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
Planning Commission	April 12th, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
City Council Meeting	April 13th, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
City Council Meeting	April 20th, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
City Council Meeting	May 4th, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
Planning Commission	May 10th, 2016	7:00 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
City Council Meeting	May 18th, 2016	6:30 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall
Mayor's Town Hall Meeting	May 25th, 2016	6:00 p.m.	Taylorsville City Hall

Public meetings are subject to change. Official agendas for public meetings are posted the Friday prior to meetings. Please check the city's website at [www.taylorsvilleut.gov](http://www.taylorsvilleut.gov) to view upcoming agendas.

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Heroin overdose death rates quadrupled since 2000

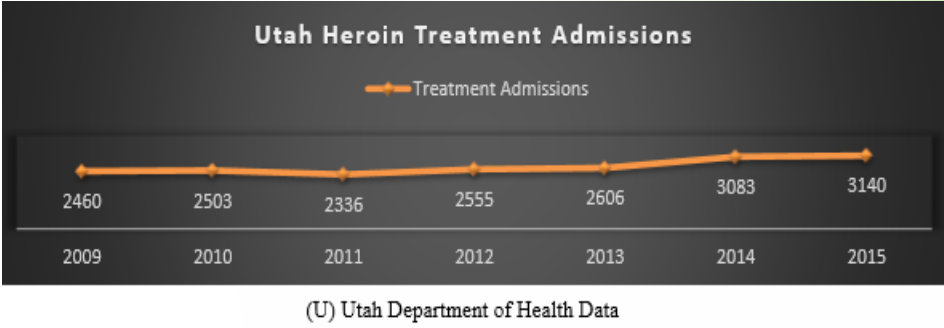
Rarely a day goes by where law enforcement and/or fire services don't respond to a heroin overdose in the Salt Lake Valley. Typically these cases are "text book" versions, whereby the addict begins his/her abuse with opioid painkillers, such as Lortab, Oxycontin or Oxycodone. Once the abuser becomes an addict and the financial realities of trying to purchase opioid pain killers becomes unsustainable, they turn to heroin. Not only does this prove personally and financially challenging for the addict and their loved ones, but creates increases in property crimes which has a negative effect on everyone in the community.

Death rates from heroin overdoses have nearly quadrupled since 2000 to reach 2.7 per 100,000 people in 2013, according to a report released by the National Center for Health Statistics, part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

And much of that growth occurred after 2010 — 37 percent each year from 2010 to 2013, the report said, from 1 death per 100,000 people to 2.7 per 100,000 people. Death rates from non-opioid painkillers declined slightly after 2010, from 5.4 deaths per 100,000 people to 5.1 per 100,000 in 2013.

One obvious reason is the expanded use of heroin in recent years. The number of current heroin users — meaning that they have used the drug within the last month — in the U.S. has more than doubled in the last decade, from 119,000 in 2003 to 289,000 in 2013.

From 2009 to 2015, there has been a 27% increase in heroin related treatment admissions into Utah medical treatment programs.



From 2011 to 2015, based on information obtained from the National Seizure System, the number of Utah heroin seizures have been sporadic. However, the amount of heroin seized has risen 1000% since 2011, from 7 kilograms to 77 kilograms. In 2011 and 2012, the average heroin seizure was less than one kilogram; however, beginning in 2013 multiple seizures were in excess of one kilogram. This trend has continued through 2014 and 2015, with multiple kilogram seizures becoming the normal seizure amounts.

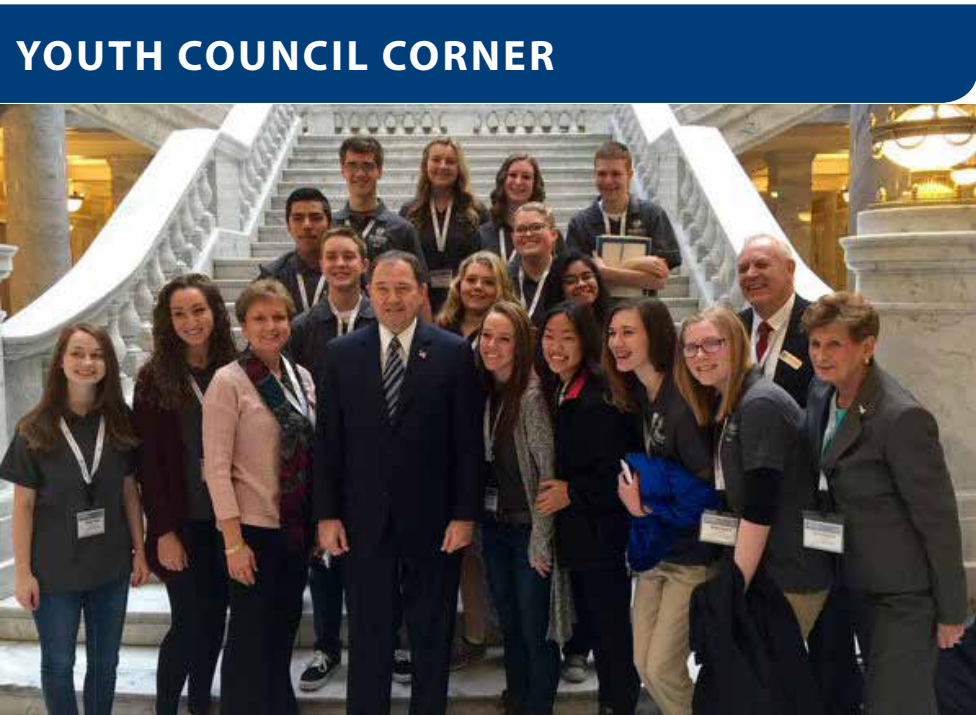


So what is the answer? First and foremost education which leads to increases in prevention and treatment of those who are already involved.

We need to educate our youth, parents, clergy and educators on the stark realities of this epidemic. We also need to do everything we can to get people off of opioids before they end up addicted to heroin. In essence treat the root cause and make legitimate headway in this startling trend.

Information provided by the CDC, Utah Department of Health, and Unified Police Department





**YOUTH COUNCIL CORNER**

Taylorsville City Youth Council is in the thick of its busy season with Day at the Legislature and preparing to go to Utah State University in March.

On the 27th of January, the Youth Councils from around the state took their annual trip to the Utah State Capitol to congregate with local and state legislators, listen to inspirational speakers, and discuss issues being considered in legislation right now. This year the issue up for discussion was body cameras on law enforcement, and many of our Taylorsville City Youth Council spoke up to voice their opinion on this subject. The Youth Council also toured the Capitol building to see the environment in which our government works.

After that, the council headed over to the Salt Palace to listen to paralympic swimmer Mallory Weggemann, who talked about her courage

and how she overcame her struggles in life.

“I loved the speaker today (Weggemann) and the inspiring message of courage she shared,” stated Lydia Flores, Youth Council Member.

Additionally, the Youth Council met in the ballroom for lunch and listened to a few more interesting speakers: Lieutenant Governor Spencer Cox, Senate President Wayne Niederhauser, House Speaker Greg Hughes, and National Geographic Explorer Dan Buettner. All of whom had a lot of interesting and important messages for the next generation of leaders, whether it was our growing population or living longer and healthier lives, they kept the majority of the councils entertained and better educated for the future.

We are now looking ahead to our Youth Council Leadership Conference in March.



Jay Zikowski

## Staying Warm in Cold Weather

Before you or your children step out into cold air, remember the advice that follows with the simple acronym COLD: cover, overexertion, layers, dry.

**Cover-** Wear a hat or other protective coverings to prevent body heat from escaping from your head, face and neck. Cover your hands with mittens instead of gloves. Mittens are more effective than gloves because mittens keep your fingers in closer contact with one another.

**Overexertion-** Avoid activities that would cause you to sweat a lot. The combination of wet clothing and cold weather can cause you to lose body heat more quickly.

**Layers-** Wear loose fitting, layered, lightweight clothing. Outer clothing made of tightly woven, water-repellent material is best for wind protection. Wool, silk or polypropylene inner layers hold body heat better than cotton does.

**Dry-** Stay as dry as possible. Get out of wet clothing as soon as possible. Be especially careful to keep your hands and feet dry, as it's easy for snow to get into mittens and boots.



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#### Community Egg Hunt!

**Saturday, March 26th at 10 AM**

**Taylorsville City Hall**  
**(South Side Lawn Area)**

**Free for Everyone!**

*Sponsored and Organized by:*  
*CrossPoint Church*





Veterans Poster and Essay Contest Awards



Taylorville City 2015 Poster & Essay Contest Recognitions (left to right): Hector Talavera, Jack Tani, Jaxon Pfeil, Carridee Raymundo, Chloe Raymundo, Issak Arias Banderas, Maliyah Toone, Brooklein Healy, Bridget Raymundo, Austin Yorgason, Keaton Roper, Alexandra Nageli, Jean Ashby, Mayor Johnson.

In 2009 the City of Taylorville began its stated intention of honoring military veterans in the community by hosting a Veterans Day program at city hall and announcing the winner of the contest to design a permanent veterans memorial at this site. Justin Wilson’s design (“Remembering those who remembered us”) was chosen and the completed memorial was dedicated on June 30, 2012.

Taylorville City Veterans Day - 2015  
Poster & Essay Contests

2nd Grade

**JACK TANI**, 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Whittier Elementary

**MS. DEE’S CLASS** (19 students), 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Arcadia Elementary

3th Grade

**CHLOE RAYMUNDO**, 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Vista Elementary

**CARRIDEE RAYMUNDO**, 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Vista Elementary

5th Grade

**MALIYAH TOONE**, 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Fox Hills Elementary

**BROOKELIN HEALY**, 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Calvin Smith Elementary

**JAXON PFEIL**, 3<sup>rd</sup> place

Westbrook Elementary

**ALEXANDRA NAGELI**,

Honorable Mention

Fox Hills Elementary

**HECTOR TALAVERA**,

Honorable Mention

Fox Hills Elementary

**ISAAK ARIAS BANDERAS**,

Honorable Mention

Fox Hills Elementary

**AUSTIN YORGASON**,

Honorable Mention

Calvin Smith Elementary

**KEATON ROPER**,

Honorable Mention

Westbrook Elementary

6th Grade

**BRIDGET RAYMUNDO**, 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Vista Elementary

At the invitation of the United Veterans Council of Salt Lake City and County, a valley-wide parade was coupled with the Taylorville program, beginning in 2010.

In 2011 the Taylorville Veterans Day Committee decided that the local school children should be part of the annual Veterans Day program, and poster and essay contests were added as part of the November 11 celebration. Students in grades 1-4 were asked to express their gratitude to the veterans for their service through art, and 5th through 8th graders were invited to write an essay for the same purpose.

Because patriotism is not something that automatically continues to the next generation, it must be fostered through education about what we have and need to protect—and about those who actively sacrifice to preserve it. The motivation for these contests is to foster in our young people an appreciation both for the United States and for the military men and women who have defended the freedoms and the way of life we enjoy here.

From the entries received from these elementary students, it is fair to say that this goal is being met. The essays submitted this year reflect an understanding of and gratitude for what our veterans have done and continue to do for us as citizens. It is obvious that parents and teachers are helping to cultivate this appreciation in our youth.

Honoring Combat Veterans

By: Maliyah Toone

I appreciate the veterans and I am thankful for the freedom they give our country. I am so thankful that they sacrifice their lives to save our country. Our country is so lucky to have these brave men and women fight for us and they all did a good job on sacrificing their lives and fighting for our country. I am very grateful that these people are so brave to stand up for our country. I know at least two people who fought and are veterans, and I feel very lucky to have them in my life. I will forever be thankful for the veterans and what they do for our country. I fear that one day a war will be fought on America’s ground. I also fear that there will be another World War. I think that I won’t really have to fear that because of our great veterans that help save our country big time. I really appreciate what they do a lot. I’m grateful that they help our country to have freedom and liberty. I have two uncles and one cousin that were veterans and all did a good job helping our country. Sometimes I honor them by going to a cemetery and saying “Thank you!” to the tombstones of veterans that died. I would like to thank them a lot because if we wouldn’t have won the wars I probably wouldn’t be standing here today.

In 2015, the theme was “Honoring Combat Veterans” and 118 entries (113 from 5th graders) were submitted to the Veterans Day Committee. The task of judging these entries was very difficult, but ultimately a first place essay winner was chosen for 5th grade and one for 6th (see below). From the 5th grade essays, 2nd and 3rd place and five honorable mention entries were also selected. (See list in sidebar).

On January 6, Mayor Johnson presented the awards to each of these students at the Taylorville City Council meeting. The council chambers had standing room only

Honoring Combat Veterans

By: Bridget Raymundo

Today, grateful citizens all around the United States of America celebrate their heroic acts of sheer compassion. To protect us, they willingly leave family and friends full of hope for their safe return, to ensure we have a definite future, a better one.

The question is, why do they sacrifice so much, why do they put their lives on the line? I am not a veteran, maybe someday I will be though I believe these remarkable individuals are heroes for their valorous decisions. Their decision to fight, protect, and help our land improve step by step to reach where we are now. I aspire that, as citizens of America, we proudly continue to build on to their effort in making a world in which it is more pleasant and safe to live.

We admire their loyalty to this beautiful country, try to be just as courageous, and hope to withstand through difficult times as they would. For they are our examples, and as many know “All gave some ... Some gave all” . Appropriately, we think of all the incredible feats they have done for us to enjoy our independence and peace in this nation. Celebrate Veterans Day in honor of all combat veterans.

as supportive friends and family members of the contest winners, many of whom are veterans themselves, gathered for the presentation. One father, an Iraq war veteran, had to make arrangements to cover other commitments in order to attend with his son. It was a proud moment for both. We commend all the students and their families for their participation.

For those who would like to nurture these discussions and similar exercises with their families, a web search for “children honor veterans” will yield many good ideas. A good starting point is: <http://www.military.com/veterans-day/celebrate-veterans-day.html>



JACK TANI, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Whittier Elementary



CHLOE RAYMUNDO, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Vista Elementary



CARRIDEE RAYMUNDO, 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Vista Elementary



MALIYAH TOONE, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Fox Hills Elementary



BROOKELIN HEALY, 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
Calvin Smith Elementary



JAXON PFEIL, 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
Westbrook Elementary



ALEXANDRA NAGELI,  
Honorable Mention  
Fox Hills Elementary



HECTOR TALAVERA,  
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Fox Hills Elementary



ISAAK ARIAS BANDERAS,  
Honorable Mention  
Fox Hills Elementary



AUSTIN YORGASON,  
Honorable Mention  
Calvin Smith Elementary



KEATON ROPER,  
Honorable Mention  
Westbrook Elementary



BRIDGET RAYMUNDO, 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Vista Elementary



Leisure Activities, Recreation & Parks Committee (LARP)

*"Remember Me" Garden*



A "Remember Me" Garden has been designed for the purpose of having a living tribute to honor and remember deceased city resident individuals who have contributed significantly to the betterment of the City of Taylorsville.

The "Remember Me" Garden is located on the North Side of Taylorsville Senior Center located at 4743 Plymouth View Lane

A dedication of the "Remember Me" Garden will take place on Memorial Day - Monday, May 30th, 2016

Additional Information will be available for those wanting to memorialize someone in the "Remember Me" Garden

Volunteers are needed for prep work, if interested please email: [LARP@taylorsvilleut.gov](mailto:LARP@taylorsvilleut.gov)





8679 South 700 West, Sandy, UT 84070

ADVERTISE  
YOUR  
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WITH US



Call us at:

801-254-5974

Easter Egg  
Hunt

Saturday, March 26th  
at 9:00 a.m.

Labrum Park  
6100 S Jordan Canal Rd.  
(1850 West)  
Taylorsville, UT

For Ages 0 to 12 yrs old

Sponsored and Organized by:  
The Bennion Lions Club







Get your BASKETS ready for  
the Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Saturday - March 26, 2016  
9:00 a.m.

Valley Park Fields  
5100 S. 2700 W.  
Taylorsville







### Customer Satisfaction Survey

During November and December of 2015, WFWRD conducted a Customer Satisfaction Survey which resulted in a 95.4% overall satisfaction rating. 92.7% of responders indicated that they were satisfied with the 2015 billing process.

### Trailer Rentals

We have both bulk trailers and green waste trailers that you can rent to help with your household clean-up tasks. These trailers are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Rental fees, and other details, are available on our website at <http://wasatch-frontwaste.org/trailer-rental>. You can also reserve your trailer online, or call our offices to make your reservation.



### Green Waste Subscription Program

The Green Waste Collection Program will begin on March 14th this year. This is a subscription-based program, and those interested in subscribing or getting more information can visit our website at [www.wasatchfrontwaste.org](http://www.wasatchfrontwaste.org). Taylorsville currently has 430 subscribers for our Green Waste Program.



### Vouchers

Did you know that we provide landfill vouchers to residents? Taylorsville residents can obtain these vouchers if you have the ability to haul your own truck or trailer loads to the landfill. These vouchers can be obtained at your City Hall.

### Like Us on Facebook



Wasatch Front Waste & Recycling District is on Facebook. Please "like" our Facebook page. This is the best and quickest way to notify you of tips, issues, and important announcements that may impact your service.

604 South 6960 West, Midvale UT 84047 • [wasatchfrontwaste.org](http://wasatchfrontwaste.org)  
Office: 385-468-6325 • Fax: 385-468-6330 • [info@wasatchfrontwaste.org](mailto:info@wasatchfrontwaste.org)



## UDOT ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY AT BANGERTER AND 5400 South

As part of its efforts to keep traffic moving on Bangerter Highway now and into the future, UDOT is conducting an environmental study to evaluate the potential benefits and impacts of constructing a freeway-style interchange at 5400 South. The improvements will be similar to the newly redesigned interchanges on Bangerter Highway at 7800 South and at Redwood Road. As part of this study, UDOT will also evaluate three other intersections at 7000 South, 9000 South and 114,000 South to determine if freeway-style alternatives will be suitable options at these locations as well.

The study is scheduled for completion in May 2016 with construction starting in 2017, pending approval of the environmental study.

A public meeting will be held in spring 2016 to present the study's findings and next steps, but the project team welcomes your questions and comments about environmental issues and transportation needs throughout the study.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

WEBSITE [www.udot.utah.gov/go/bangerterstudy](http://www.udot.utah.gov/go/bangerterstudy)  
PHONE 888.766.ROAD (7623)  
EMAIL [Bangerter@utah.gov](mailto:Bangerter@utah.gov)



On Wednesday, March 2nd in celebration of the birthday of Dr. Seuss, Mayor Johnson and Detective Lloyd were invited to read Dr. Seuss books to students at Taylorsville Elementary.



## Taylorsville Senior Center March 2016 Activities

- Wednesday, March 9th - "Making wise financial decisions" presentation from 11:00-12:00.
- Thursday, March 16th - "The emotions of change" presentation from 11:00-12:00.
- Thursday, March 17th - Special St. Patrick's Day Celebration- Entertainment from 11:30-12:30 by Alan Brownlee.
- Thursday, March 17th - Evening at the Center sponsored by the Advisory Committee from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. Price is \$6.00 per person. Entertainment by "Ruby Tuesday". Special St. Patrick's Day Meal.
- Tuesday, March 22nd - Taylorsville Senior Center Choir program at 11:15.
- Thursday, March 24th - Podiatrist visit at 11:00.

### Living Well with Diabetes Class

Day: Monday

Session zero: March 28th at 5:00 pm

Start: 4/14/16 | End: 5/9/16

Time: 5:00 -7:30 pm

Taylorsville Senior Center 4743 S. Plymouth View Drive (1650 W.)

### Living Well with Diabetes Class

Day: Monday

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Taylorsville Senior Center 4743 S. Plymouth View Drive (1650 W.)

### Volunteer of the Month

## Anna Mccullough



Anna was born in Tyler, Texas. She came to Utah in 1948 to follow her heart and a young man in the service who would later become her husband.

Anna and her husband attended the grand opening of the Taylorsville Senior Center and she has been enjoying coming and making friends while enjoying crafts and quilting at the center. Anna enjoyed bowling for 43 years and even landed a spot in the Utah Hall of Fame. She has two sons, 10 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Anna made the quilt that is being auctioned off right.





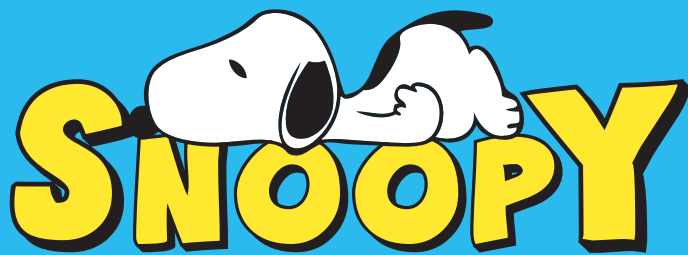
City of Taylorsville Building Department  
Transitions to Electronic Plan Review Format



On March 15, 2016, the City of Taylorsville's building department will transition to an electronic plan review format for all building permit applications. Instead of bringing building plans to the city offices, plans will now be submitted electronically to the city's plan review website: <http://taylorsville.eprocess360.com/login>

Here you will be able to check the status of plans, schedule inspections, and manage your building permit. This website will simplify the permit application process and allow users to inquire about the status any time of day. The building department is available to offer first-time users assistance with website use and set up to scan and upload their plans. This change will streamline the overall process and assist in keeping permit costs as low as possible.

PRESENTED BY THE TAYLORSVILLE ARTS COUNCIL



**DATES:** MARCH 18, 19, & 21

**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** TAYLORSVILLE SENIOR CENTER  
4743 PLYMOUTH VIEW DRIVE

**TICKETS:** \$7

BASED ON THE COMIC STRIP "PEANUTS" BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ  
BOOK BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ CREATIVE ASSOCIATES, WARREN LOCKHART,  
ARTHUR WHITELAW AND MICHAEL L. GRACE  
MUSIC BY LARRY GROSSMAN  
LYRICS BY HAL HACKADY



Welcome to  
**Taylorsville, Zaxby's!**



On Saturday, Feb. 20, city officials participated in a ribbon cutting to celebrate the grand opening of Zaxby's in Taylorsville. Zaxby's, located at 1814 West 5400 South, is the newest addition to Legacy Plaza at 54th.

They offer an enjoyable, family-friendly and delicious experience with a vast array of menu items that offers something for everyone. They are open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. In addition to a wide selection and customizable menu, they offer on-line ordering and catering too.

The Zaxby's in Taylorsville marks the 11th location in Utah.





**ART Intake**  
**3/15 Tuesday 2PM-6:30PM**  
**3/16 Wednesday 2PM-6:30PM**  
**3/17 Thursday 2PM-4PM**  
*\*All hanging art must be framed*

## 2016 TAYLORSVILLE ART SHOW



**Friday, March 18th from 5PM - 8PM**  
**Saturday, March 19th from 10AM - 4PM**  
**Awards Presented Saturday at 3:30 PM**  
**Taylorsville Senior Center - 4743 Plymouth View Dr.**  
**FREE ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC**

*Taylorsville residency is not required to enter art or win awards!*



### NEW BUSINESSES

***Welcome to  
Taylorsville!***



#### **Caring for Kearns- Community Wellness**

5255 South 4015 West #207  
Mental Health Services

#### **El Garage Auto Service, LLC**

5419 South 4015 West  
Mechanic Shop

#### **High Gear Hobbies, LLC**

2160 West 4700 South  
Retail Hobby Store

#### **Sumorrito**

1775 West 5400 South  
Restaurant-Asian

#### **World of Vapes, LLC**

4128 So Carriage Square  
Smoke/Vaper Store



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

The Taylorsville Exchange Club is sponsoring a Pinwheel Garden for Child Abuse Prevention Month.



Please help us plant pinwheels at Taylorsville City Hall on Saturday, April 2nd, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.



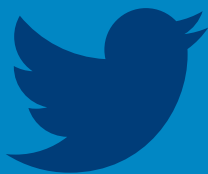
Want to learn more?

Spring is soon to be upon us and with that change of season the Conservation Garden Park is offering free classes. The Conservation Garden Park has been developed by Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District to inspire, educate, and empower our communities to be waterwise. Located on 10 acres in West Jordan, Utah it is easily accessible from all Wasatch Front communities. The garden began with six examples of waterwise landscaping in a mock residential setting. It has since expanded to include interactive exhibits for educating the public on waterwise design, planting, and irrigation becoming one of Utah’s premier water conservation teaching and demonstration gardens. Taylorsville-Bennion Improvement District, as Member Agency of Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, continues to promote this valuable resource to our customers. More information can be found at [www.conserva-tiongardenpark.org](http://www.conserva-tiongardenpark.org).

If you have any questions regarding this article please contact Dan McDougal, communications manager, at Taylorsville-Bennion Improvement District: 801-968-9081 / [danmcdougal@tbid.org](mailto:danmcdougal@tbid.org) or visit our website at [www.tbid.org](http://www.tbid.org)

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[www.taylorvilleut.gov](http://www.taylorvilleut.gov)





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

### SCHOOL RECESS CAMPS:

- ♦ Open 6:30am-6:30pm
- ♦ Register today for SPRING BREAK CAMP  
March 24, 25, 28, 29
- ♦ Join us for a camp full of fun, building friend-



### BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

- ♦ Breakfast, snack, and meals provided.
- ♦ Clubs, Enrichment Activities, Games, Sports, Field Trips  
Character Education and so much more!!

### TUTORING:

- ♦ Snack, Homework Help, and Clubs
- ♦ Transportation home.

### REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017: MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- ♦ Registration for the 2016-2017 BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL  
Programs begins on April 1st!



To register for these programs go to [ymcautah.org](http://ymcautah.org) or call 801-839-3388



**June 23rd, 24th, 25th**

**2016 Taylorsville Dayzz Exhibit Applications,  
Food Vendor Applications, Sponsor Contracts,  
Performance Applications, and Parade  
Applications are NOW AVAILABLE on the City of  
Taylorsville website home page at  
[www.taylorsvilleut.gov](http://www.taylorsvilleut.gov)**

## Taylorsville Food Pantry

website: [www.TaylorsvilleFoodPantry.org](http://www.TaylorsvilleFoodPantry.org)  
email: [TaylorsvilleFoodPantry@gmail.com](mailto:TaylorsvilleFoodPantry@gmail.com)  
phone: 801-815-0003

The Taylorsville Food Pantry is here to help Taylorsville residents with emergency food during financial distress. We provide two days of food per visit. Visits are limited to three times per month.

Firsttime visitors need to bring verification of address in Taylorsville (Zip 84123 and 84129 only) utility bill, lease agreement, etc.

Basic requirements (unless otherwise noted):  
Photo ID for adults (18 and over).

Identification for children, immunization record, birth certificate, school record, tax return, etc.

Don't live in Taylorsville? Call 211 or go to [www.uw.org](http://www.uw.org) (United Way Program) for your LOCAL pantry information or to receive information about other United Way assistance programs.

**The Food Pantry is address is:  
4775 Plymouth View Drive in  
Taylorsville, UT 84123**

*Directions: Turn east onto 4800 South off of Redwood Road (1700 W.) and then north onto Plymouth View Drive (1625 W.)*

### Hours

**Monday 1 PM - 3 PM  
Wednesday 4 PM - 6 PM  
Saturday 10 AM - Noon**

*\*\*Operated using volunteers by Tri-Park Services, an independent not-for-profit charitable organization. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



# Business Spotlight

Business Spotlights are a service offered to our advertisers to help them inform our readers about their businesses. For information on scheduling a Spotlight, please call us at 801-254-5974 or email us at [ryan.casper@mycityjournals.com](mailto:ryan.casper@mycityjournals.com)

## Curves

The 2016 Curves Food Drive will take place from March 1-31. Curves is inviting both non-members and members to take part in the food drive by bringing in a bag of non-perishable food or a monetary contribution of at least \$30 to be donated to Utah Food Bank. All new members who make a food or monetary donation will receive a \$0 enrollment fee when joining Curves.

"We are excited to take part in the Curves Food Drive this year. It brings the community together to help feed the hungry, while bringing women together for their health and wellness," Jenna Murphy of Curves of Taylorsville said. "This year, donations will benefit Utah Food Bank."

Curves International, Inc. is one of the largest chains of fitness centers for women in the world, and is famous for its 30-minute Circuit with a Coach. Every major muscle group is worked in these circuits with strength training, cardio and stretching.

Curves Workouts with Jillian Michaels, offered at participating Curves locations, pro-

vide cutting-edge total-body workouts that feature the Curves strength training machines, in conjunction with functional bodyweight-based exercises that help ramp up metabolism and transform physique.

The new Curves Specialty Classes offer workout moves for key focus areas such as balance, flexibility or strength. Classes include boxing, dance & tone, body balance, arms-core-legs, and stretch & strength. With Curves Complete, women have a fully integrated, personalized weight loss and weight management solution that includes the Curves fitness program, customizable meal plans and one-on-one coaching and support. Curves is committed to providing women with the tools necessary to empower them to live more fulfilling lives.

The Curves Boxing specialty class is a higher-intensity class that includes cardio, strength, coordination and balance. Utilizing the Curves strength machines, the class delivers a total body conditioning workout offering cardiovascular conditioning combined

with core work in traditional boxing movements. The boxing movements are performed in between the circuit strength machines in 30 second increments. Curves coaches help members throughout the class with form and pacing, while the boxing instruction is delivered via video.

"Boxing is a great way to get in all of the key elements of total body fitness: strength, balance, cardio and core," Hannah Karass, vice president of programs and science for Curves, said. "Paired with the Curves circuit, members can get that full-body workout in Curves' signature 30 minutes."

Curves has members ranging in age from 25 to the 90s. Yep, you read right. There are active members at Curves of Taylorsville who are more than 90!

"We are impressed with all our members, but how about those who keep active and fit well into their 80s and 90s?" exclaimed Jenna. "Meet Lois Smith who is 80-something and



one of our newest regulars."

"Curves has offered me a place to be active and overall feeling better each and every day," Lois said.

To learn more, drop by Curves of Taylorsville at 2302 West 5400 South, call 801-840-1616 or visit [www.curves.com](http://www.curves.com). ✦

## What Happens When Memories Slip Away?

If you or someone you care for is age 50 or older and has been diagnosed with probable Alzheimer's Disease, they may qualify for a STEADFAST clinical research study of an investigational medication. Qualified participants receive study-related care and study medication at no cost and may be reimbursed for study-related travel expenses. A reliable caregiver must accompany study participants to clinic visits.

Interested? Call **801-325-1000**

5251 S Green Street, Suite 300 Murray, UT 84123

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[www.radiantresearch.com](http://www.radiantresearch.com)



alzheimer's  
**STEADFAST**  
STUDY



# GET YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW!

*Join Us in a Complementary Workshop*

## HOW TO PROTECT YOUR STUFF IN 3 EASY STEPS!



*"It does no good to have a terrific estate plan if, at the end of the day, nothing is left for the surviving spouse! Savvy seniors need more than just a will or a living trust."*

The Wall Street Journal reports that 86% of widows and widowers live in poverty after their life savings are spent for care of the first spouse. Whether you or a family member is in a crisis now or not, you need to know what you can do today to protect yourself and your surviving spouse in the future.

Don't Go Broke in a Nursing Home! Learn how to be empowered, not impoverished at a brand new free workshop hosted by local attorney Kent M. Brown of Strong & Hanni. No matter where you are in life, there's still time to do better! If you are approaching retirement, are currently retired, or a homeowner with assets you want to protect, this workshop is for you.

### THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE THINGS YOU WILL DISCOVER WHEN YOU ATTEND A SEMINAR:

1. How to protect your retirement income.
2. What your will, living trust & financial power of attorney may likely be missing that can lead to substantial financial loss.
3. How to protect your assets from catastrophic illness and nursing home costs without purchasing long-term care insurance.
4. How to protect your home and avoid nasty Medicaid liens.
5. The hidden trigger in your revocable trust that can trap your money irrevocably.
6. The truth about trusts and why most advisors are unaware of how to use them for your benefit.

### WORKSHOPS COMING IN MARCH, 2016

Thursday, March 10 • 3:30PM – 5:30PM

Saturday, March 12 • 10:00AM – 12:00PM

Thursday, March 17 • 3:30PM – 5:30PM

Saturday, March 19 • 10:00AM – 12:00PM

**Workshop is Located at Home Care Assistance**  
**7833 South Highland Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84121**

**Join Kent M. Brown**

*Co-author of "Protect Your IRA - Avoid 5 Common Mistakes"*

**SEATING IS LIMITED!**  
**CALL 801.323.2079**



# Passion on the Court

*By Jessica Thompson | Jessica@mycityjournals.com*

It may have seemed Taylorsville High's boys basketball team would lose to West Jordan in their region game on Jan. 20. At half-time the team was trailing by 11 points, but Aaron Canepari and Crosby Bringham weren't going to let a lose happen for their team.

Bringham, a junior, made a three pointer to send the game into overtime. With 0.5 seconds left on the clock, Canepari made two free throws that helped his team steal the victory from West Jordan. This win kept the Warriors in line for the play offs.

"My favorite aspect of basketball is how fast paced it is. I like how in basketball somethings is always happening and momentum can swing for a team at any minute," Canepari said.

Canepari is the Warriors' point guard and has been one of the leading scorers for the last two years.

"When I'm playing basketball I just feel happy. I've always seen the court as an escape from the day to day life. When you're out there playing you don't have to worry about anything, you just get lost in the game," Canepari said.

Being a part of a team has taught Canepari how to work well with others and accountability. He has learned that his actions on and off the court affect him as well as his teammates.

"You only get what you work hard for. If you aren't willing to put in time perfecting your craft during the off season then you won't see positive results individually or with your team during the on season. Basketball has taught me that if you want something bad enough, you have to go work for it and earn it," he said.

Canepari's coach, Garrett Wilson, took over as head coach two years ago and said Canepari is just as good of a person off the court as he is on the court.

"Aaron has been team leader both in his attitude and work ethic as well as his skills as a basketball player. Away from basketball he is really the model citizen that I want my younger players looking up. He is just such a good person off the court that it makes me proud as a coach to have him represent our team. I couldn't ask for a better senior leader," Wilson said.

Last fall, Taylorsville High School got a surprise all the way from Lithuania. Tomas Armonavicius is a senior foreign exchange student who is now the shooting guard and point guard.



*Taylorsville High School's basketball team's shooting guard, Tomas Armonavicius, is a foreign exchange student from Lithuania. —Tomas Armonavicius*


"Tomas is a great shooter. He has the ability to stretch defenses out because he can shoot it one, two steps from behind the arch. He is an ultimate competitor as well. He has had to learn a whole new system and has done a remarkable job with earning his place, not only as a team member, but as a starter. He works extremely hard and is very coachable," Wilson said.

Armonavicius' very first game in America was against Lehi High School where Taylorsville lost 91 to 117.

"I think in this game we showed really good offense and there was a lot of passion," Armonavicius said. "The best part of basketball is the game is a team sport. If you want to win games, you can't be selfish or think about yourself."

"It has been a great privilege to coach these two as well as the rest of the guys on our team. I am constantly being told from opposing coaches that they are impressed how hard my guys work for me. Not having to fight that battle makes my job so much easier as a coach. They listen to what I say and they work so hard to do it. This really is a great place to be," Wilson said. ✦






# COUPONS 4 Utah

## Birthday Music I Can Hear – 11 Birthday Freebies for Restaurants and Shopping

By Joani Taylor



Happy birthday! “It’s scientifically proven that people who have more birthdays live longer.” “Age is just a number, in your case a really high one.” “You think age is funny? Wait until you look in the mirror.” Is it that time of year again when you open your Facebook page to find a barrage of jabs from family and friends who figure a digital greeting means more than a card and cake? Well guess what? I have a digital birthday surprise for you too.


Whether you are 40, 50 or inching up on the world of 60 and beyond, getting another year older does have some perks, and I’m not talking about ordering off the senior menu at Denny’s, or the loss of hearing most distinguished adults can’t escape. I’m talking about Utah’s favorite “F” word ... FREE!

There are dozens of companies out there just waiting to send you a free gift for your birthday – restaurants that want to feed you and stores that want to give you freebies or money to spend. Here are 11 birthday freebies that topped my list.

- \*Kmart and Sears:** Join the Shop Your Way Birthday Club and you will receive a special gift on your birthday. Mine was \$10 to spend in the store. Plus, when you register your kids, they’ll get \$5 in birthday bucks, a birthday crown, a happy birthday certificate and a birthday fun pack.
- \*Ulta Beauty:** Sign up for the Ulta Rewards Program and get a special birthday surprise. Last year mine was an exclusive lipstick that sells for \$18.
- \*Sephora:** Get a FREE gift from Sephora on your birthday. Last year mine was a beauty product valued at \$25.
- \*Aveda:** Join their birthday program and receive a FREE exclusive offer on your birthday. Last year mine was a bottle of an essential oil.
- \*Victoria’s Secret:** Sign up for emails and receive a special gift for your birthday. In past years this has been a \$10 gift card.
- \*Kohls:** Sign up for YES2YOU rewards and get a \$10 Kohls gift card for your birthday.
- \*Famous Footwear:** They send rewards members a \$5 gift card. Last year that bagged me a free pack of socks.
- \*Red Robin:** Get a free certificate for a burger for your birthday.
- \*Noodles and Company:** Score a free bowl of noodles.
- \*Shula’s 347 Grill (West Valley City):** Receive a complimentary entrée with the purchase of an entrée of equal or greater value.
- \*Boondocks:** Birthday Club members enjoy an unlimited FREE pass!

Cashing in on the goods is easy; you simply join their monthly emails. A little tip: these emails can be cumbersome. My advice is to join only the companies you enjoy hearing from, and don’t stash them away for just your birthday. Most of these companies send out special coupons during other times of the year too. Lastly, make sure you are signing up for each company’s actual birthday club and not just their monthly newsletter; some of them require different forms. You can find dozens more and links to each of the forms on [www.coupons4utah.com/birthday](http://www.coupons4utah.com/birthday).

Free lunch, shopping, dinner and entertainment on my birthday is birthday music I can hear. ✦





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Wild Child

By Peri Kinder



Toddlers and raccoons are eerily similar. They eat food off the floor, have nuclear levels of energy and they’re very clever, without having a shred of common sense. When I learned my daughter was expecting her first child this spring, I thought she should practice by raising a raccoon. Here’s my advice.

When holding your little raccoon for the first time, you’ll be awestruck. You’ll touch her tiny fingers, gaze into her dark brown eyes and sniff her furry head. She’ll cuddle into you and all will be right with the world—for about seven minutes. Then she’ll get hungry, and stay hungry for nine years.

As you’re breastfeeding, you’ll feel that wonderful bond between the two of you, the love flowing and “\$#\*&!!” Do not punch your baby raccoon in the face when she bites you.

As your little raccoon goes from crawling to running away from you at the store while stuffing candy in her mouth, you’ll wonder if you’ll ever stop being tired or ever spend another moment not worrying. The answer is no.

All your clothes will be smeared with peanut butter, yogurt and snot. You’ll wear them anyway. When she shaves the dog or colors the tub with Sharpies, take it in stride.

One day, you’ll rock little raccoon to sleep and place her gently in her crib. You’ll be relieved you can use the bathroom alone for the first time in days. Before you get comfortable,



little raccoon has tunneled out of the crib and is frantically clawing at the door, shoving her fingers under the door and doing her best to chew through the door to get to you.

Bath time will be a wet lesson in patience. Wrestle little raccoon into the tub, distracting her with toys as you lather her furry body. Keep her calm as the shampoo drips into her eyes and she shrieks while crawling up your arm, soaking your last semi-clean T-shirt.

In the middle of the night, you’ll be anxious about little raccoon. You’ll sneak into her room like a ninja, to make sure she’s safe. As you tiptoe back to bed and step on a wooden block and slam your hip on the doorknob, you can’t swear, because not only will little raccoon wake up with an ear-splitting scream, but she’ll use the swear word exclusively for eight months.

Little raccoon will love to make cookies. She’ll push the chair to the counter, climb up next to you and turn the mixer on full blast, shooting sugar and eggs everywhere. She’ll screech and jump onto your chest (whether

you’re ready or not) and grab your hair so she won’t fall. Your hair will eventually grow back.

Strap little raccoon into a stroller with a broken wheel and steer through a crowded mall with one hand, carrying a 25-pound diaper bag. When she escapes and scampers away, ignore the judging glances from childless women.

Prepare yourself. You’ll leave little raccoon playing cheerfully, only to come back three minutes later to find she’s disappeared. You’ll search every room, closet and drawer to no avail. Immediately after you hysterically call the police, little raccoon will come stumbling down the hall after napping under the towels in the laundry basket. You won’t know whether to scream, laugh or cry; so you’ll do all three.

But even with toys flushed in the toilet, melted crayons in the dryer and the layer of stickiness that coats your entire house, you’ll love little raccoon more than you ever imagined. And one day, when she has her own little raccoon, you can pass your hard-earned advice along to her. ✦

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